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# Korean Broadcasting System

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The **Korean Broadcasting System (KBS)** (Korean: 한국방송공사; Hanja: 韓國放送公社; RR: *Han-guk Bangsong Gongsǎ*; MR: *Han'guk Pangsong Kongsǎ*) is the national [public broadcaster](#) of [South Korea](#). It was founded in 1927, and operates [radio](#), [television](#), and [online](#) services. As of 2021, it is one of [South Korea](#)'s largest broadcasters.

## Korean Broadcasting System

**KBS**

Logo used since 29 October 1984



Main building of Korean Broadcasting System

<b>Native name</b>	<span>한국방송공사</span>
<b>Hanja</b>	<span>韓國放送公社</span>
<b>Revised Romanization</b>	<i>Han-guk Bangsong Gongsǎ</i>
<b>McCune-Reischauer</b>	<i>Han'guk Pangsong Kongsǎ</i>
<b>Type</b>	Statutory corporation
<b>Industry</b>	Broadcasting

Jawa  
 Kiswahili  
 Kreyòl ayisyen  
 Kurdî  
 Magyar  
 Bahasa Melayu  
 ■■■■■■■■■■  
 Nederlands  
 日本語  
 Norsk bokmål  
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 Polski  
 Português  
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 کوردی  
 Српски / srpski  
 Suomi  
 Svenska  
 Tagalog  
 ■■■■  
 Тоҷикӣ  
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<b>Predecessors</b>	Kyeongseong/Keijō Broadcasting Station (1927-1932) Chōsen Broadcasting Corporation (1932-1945)
<b>Founded</b>	16 February 1927; 94 years ago (as Kyeongseong/Keijō Broadcasting Station) (Radio) December 1961; 59 years ago (television) 3 March 1973; 48 years ago (as Public Broadcasting organization)
<b>Founder</b>	<span>Japanese colonial government in Korea</span>
<b>Headquarters</b>	<span>Yeouido, Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul, South Korea</span>
<b>Area served</b>	National Worldwide (via <span>KBS World</span> )
<b>Key people</b>	<span>Yang Seung-dong</span> , President
<b>Products</b>	<span>Television</span> <span>Radio</span> <span>Web portals</span>
<b>Owner</b>	<span>Independent</span> (publicly owned)
<b>Number of employees</b>	4,701 (As of 1 June 2020)
<b>Subsidiaries</b>	<span>KBS Media</span> KBS Art Vision KBS Business <span>KBS N</span> KBS i (closed in 2011) KBS Security E-KBS KBS America KBS Japan
<b>Website</b>	<span>Corporation website</span> <span><span></span></span>

History [\[edit\]](#)

## Early radio broadcasts [edit]

The KBS began as Keijo Broadcasting Station (경성방송국, 京城放送局) with call sign **JODK**, established by the [Governor-General of Korea](#) on 16 February 1927. It became the Chōsen Broadcasting Corporation ([Japanese](#): 朝鮮放送協会, [Hepburn](#): *Chōsen Hōsō Kyōkai*, *[RR](#)*: *Joseon Bangsong Hyeobhoe*) in 1932. This second radio station started using the call sign HLKA in 1947 after the [Republic of Korea](#) was granted the [ITU prefix](#) HL. After doing a national broadcast, the radio was renamed



Seoul Central Broadcasting Station in 1948.

## **1950s–1960s - Move into television** [\[edit\]](#)

Television broadcasts in South Korea began on 12 May 1956 with the first television station HLKZ-TV. It was sold to KBS in 1961.

## **1970s - Expansion** [\[edit\]](#)

KBS station status changed from government to broadcasting station on 3 March 1973. Construction of KBS headquarters in [Yeouido](#) started in 1976. In 1979 KBS radio began broadcasting on the FM band with the launch of KBS Stereo (now [KBS 1FM](#)).

## **1980s - Advertising started after controversial merger** [\[edit\]](#)

KBS began accepting advertising in 1980, differing from the norm of advert-free broadcasting by public broadcasters, after the forced merger of several private broadcasters into KBS by the military government of [Chun Doo-hwan](#) (see Controversies).<sup>[1]</sup>

## **1990s - Spinoff of EBS** [\[edit\]](#)

In 1981, KBS launched KBS 3TV and Educational FM and on 27 December 1990, the channels split from KBS to form the [Educational Broadcasting System](#) (EBS).

After a revision of the television licensing fee system in 1994, [1TV](#) and [Radio1](#) stopped broadcasting commercials.

## **2010s** [\[edit\]](#)

After first broadcasting HD programmes in 2001, KBS completely transferred to digital broadcasting in 2012.

In March 2013, computer shutdowns hit South Korean television stations including the KBS.<sup>[2]</sup> The South Korean government asserted a [North Korean](#) link in the [March cyberattacks](#), which has been denied by Pyongyang.<sup>[3]</sup>

In 2013, KBS World Radio commemorated its 60th anniversary, and KBS World TV celebrated 10 years of its foundation.

In 2014, KBS World 24 was launched, mainly for Koreans abroad.

In 2015, KBS was honored to have its archives of the KBS Special Live Broadcast, Finding Dispersed Families, inscribed on the [UNESCO](#) Memory of the World Register. This makes KBS only the world's second broadcaster to have a broadcast programme on the prestigious list.

The KBS network dedicated to deliver the exclusive Special Live Broadcast, Finding Dispersed Families, via its primary channel, KBS1. KBS News served as the program's producer. The program made its premiere telecast on 10:15 pm KST on 30 June 1983. After more than 6 months, the special live programme ended at 4 am on 14 November 1983. This marks a total duration of 453 hours and 45 minutes of live broadcast over the period of 138 days, aired nationwide on KBS1. The whole live broadcast was recorded. The KBS' archives of Special Live Broadcast, Finding Dispersed Families include; 463 video tapes of the original recordings, and many kinds of associated materials, generated in the course of the extraordinary broadcast, such as the posters carrying the participating dispersed family members' capsule stories, cue sheets, programming schedules, radio recording materials, and related photographs. A total of 20,522 such assorted materials have been preserved in the archives.<sup>[4]</sup> The program was the biggest public affairs program ever produced by KBS in the decade, and was the first to tackle the issue of families separated because of the long [Korean War](#) (1950-1953), which garnered even international coverage.

In 2017, KBS launched the world's first terrestrial UHD broadcasting service.

In 2018, KBS led the operation of the IBC (International Broadcasting Centre) inside the [KINTEX](#) (Korea International Exhibition Center), located in [Goyang City](#), as Host Broadcaster for the [April 2018 inter-Korean summit](#).<sup>[5]</sup> During the summit, KBS successfully delivered all the moments associated with the historic summit for more than 3,000 local and overseas media representatives, gathered at the IBC. Throughout the day of the summit, KBS delivered live coverage and the latest developments of the

event through its continuous special news bulletins. Also, its prime-time news programmes, [KBS News 9](#) and [KBS Newsline](#) provided audiences with highlights and implications of the historic summit through comprehensive and analytical reports. Also, KBS World TV delivered Live Coverage of April 2018 Inter-Korean summit with English subtitles for its audiences across 117 countries worldwide.

In 2019, as the public service broadcaster in South Korea, KBS undertook a major reform in its Disaster Broadcast System in order to provide exclusive emergency services for people in the country in times of emergency. To be headed by President and CEO of KBS, the renewed system will allow the use of maximum resources of the organization under emergency circumstances. Under the reform, KBS will focus on; swift and efficient emergency broadcast and coverage; to deliver essential information in innovative ways with the ultimate aim to minimise losses and damages; to strengthen its digital platforms to better serve a wide-ranging audience groups. In particular, KBS signed contracts with nine sign language interpreters in an effort to enhance broadcast services for audiences with disabilities. In addition, KBS is committed to improve its English subtitle services for people from overseas.

### Structure [\[edit\]](#)

KBS is a public corporation (공사, 公社) funded by the [South Korean government](#) and license fees, but is managed independently. As part of the [Constitution](#), the president of KBS is chosen by the [President of South Korea](#), after being recommended by its board of directors. Political parties in South Korea also have the right to name members of the KBS board of directors.

Because of this system, which gives politicians effective control over choosing the president of KBS, as well as its board of directors, people who are critical of the system cite political intervention in KBS's governance as reason for revising the current system of recruiting.

In order to uphold and defend independence, KBS, since 2018, created a 'Public Advisory Group', as part of the selection process of new KBS President and CEO. New President and CEO of KBS is recommended by the KBS Board of Governors, once the selection process by the Group is completed. The Group examines Presidential candidates in the form of a presentation, a panel discussion, and an interview. New President and CEO of KBS will finally be appointed by the President of Republic of Korea, after going through the mandatory parliamentary audit by the National Assembly.

Around 49% of KBS' revenue comes from a mandatory [television licence fee](#) of 2,500 [won](#), with another 18.7% coming from commercial advertisement sales.<sup>[\[6\]](#)</sup>

In addition to 18 regional stations and 12 overseas branches, there are eight subsidiary companies such as KBSN, KBS Business and KBS Media, which manage KBS content.



KBS Cool FM Radio studios



KBS regional broadcasting station in [Changwon](#)

### CEOs [\[edit\]](#)

Generation	Name	Start	Retirement	Note
1	Hong Kyung-mo	February 1973	February 1979	N/A
2				
3	Choi Se-kyung <sup>[ko]</sup>	February 1979	July 1980	
4	Lee Won-hong	July 1980	February 1985	
5				
6	Park Hyun-tae	February 1985	August 1986	
7	Jung Koo-ho	August 1986	November 1988	
8	Seo Young-hoon <sup>[ko]</sup>	November 1988	March 1990	

9	Seo Ki-won [ko]	April 1990	March 1993	
10	Hong Doo-pyo [ko]	March 1993	April 1998	
11				
12	Park Kwon-sang [ko]	20 April 1998	10 March 2003	
13				
14	Seo Dong-koo	22 March 2003	2 April 2003	
15	Jung Yeon-joo [ko]	28 April 2003	11 August 2008	Dismissed
16				
17				
18	Lee Byung-soon [ko]	28 August 2008	23 November 2009	N/A
19	Kim In-kyoo [ko]	24 November 2009	23 November 2012	
20	Kil Hwan-young [ko]	23 November 2012	10 June 2014	Dismissed after strike
21	Jo Dae-hyun [ko]	28 July 2014	23 November 2015	N/A
22	Ko Dae-young [ko]	24 November 2015	23 January 2018	Dismissed after strike
23	Yang Seung-dong	9 April 2018	23 November 2018	N/A
24		24 November 2018	Incumbent	

## Channels <sup>[edit]</sup>

### Terrestrial television <sup>[edit]</sup>

- KBS1** - KBS' flagship channel, it broadcasts news and current affairs, education, drama, sports, children's programming and culture. It launched in 1961 as HLKA-TV and is solely funded by the license fee, airing commercial-free. It is available nationally on channel 9, broadcasting via [digital terrestrial television](#). KBS1 also airs public information films and minor entertainment programming, the majority of which is on KBS2.<sup>[7]</sup>
- KBS2** - KBS' entertainment and drama channel, it was launched in 1980 as a replacement for the *Tongyang Broadcasting Corporation*, which was controversially merged with KBS. It is available on digital channel 7 via [digital terrestrial television](#). KBS2 also airs live sports coverage, children's programming, public information films and less news and current affairs programming, the majority of which is on KBS1.<sup>[7]</sup>
- KBS UHD** - The Ultra High Definition channel. Airls music videos and re-runs of dramas. It is on national terrestrial digital channel 66.<sup>[8]</sup>

KBS1 and KBS2 phased out analogue services on 31 December 2012 as part of the switchover to digital television.

### Cable and satellite television <sup>[edit]</sup>

- KBS N Life** - A culture and drama channel, launched in 1995 as KBS Satellite 2. It was renamed as KBS Korea in 2002, renamed as KBS Prime in 2006 before becoming N Life.
- KBS Drama** - formerly KBS Sky Drama, launched in 2002
- KBS N Sports** - formerly KBS Sports/KBS Sky Sports, launched in 2002
- KBS Joy** - a comedy and quiz show channel that was launched in 2006
- KBS Kids** - the children's channel, launched in 2012<sup>[9]</sup>
- KBS W** - a channel aimed at a female audience, launched in 2013<sup>[10]</sup>

These six channels are carried by cable and satellite operators in South Korea. There are 100+ cable operators in South Korea, and [Skylife](#) is the sole satellite television service provider. These channels are managed and operated by KBS N, a subsidiary company of KBS.

## KBS World [[edit](#)]

*Main article: [KBS World](#)*

**KBS World** is the international television and radio service of KBS. It was officially launched on 1 July 2003. It is broadcast on a 24-hour schedule with programs including news, sports, television dramas, entertainment, and children's. KBS World television is broadcast locally and around the world. As of July 2007, around 65% of its programs are broadcast with English subtitles, it is available in 32 countries, and reportedly more than 40 million households around the world can access KBS World.<sup>[*[citation needed](#)*]</sup> It has two overseas subsidiaries: [KBS America](#) and [KBS Japan](#). KBS Japan is independently operated by a KBS subsidiary in Japan, and most programs are provided with Japanese subtitles.



KBS World television is a television channel that mainly broadcasts programs commissioned for KBS' 2 terrestrial networks: KBS1 and [KBS2](#). KBS World television is distributed over several international communication and broadcasting satellites such as IS-19, IS-20, IS-21, Measat 3, Apstar 6 & 7, Eutelsat Hotbird 13A, Galaxy 11, 18 & 23, Badr 6, Vinasat 1, Palapa D, SES 7, Telkom 1, Thaicom 5, EchoStar 15, Anik F3. Local cable and/or satellite operators receive the signal from one of these satellite and carry the signal to end subscribers of their own networks. KBS doesn't allow individual viewer to receive the signal from IS-19, IS-20, IS-21, Measat 3, Asiasat 5, and Galaxy 18. The signal from Badr 6 and Eutelsat Hotbird 13A is [Free-to-Air](#).

KBS World TV commenced its serve via YouTube in 2007. The YouTube subscribers reached 10 million in May 2019, and recorded 13.5 million in July 2020. KBS World TV is also available on various social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LINE. Its social media surpassed 20 million subscribers in April 2020.

## Radio [[edit](#)]

- [KBS Radio 1](#) (711 kHz [AM](#)/97.3 MHz [FM](#) KBS Radio Seoul) - news, current affairs, drama, documentary and culture. Launched in 1927 as Kyeongseong Broadcasting Corporation JODK and it became KBS Radio 1 in 1965.<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS Radio 2](#) (603 kHz [AM](#)/106.1 MHz [FM](#) KBS Happy FM) - Popular music. Launched in 1948 as HLSA.<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS Radio 3](#) (1134 kHz [AM](#)/104.9 MHz [FM](#) KBS Voice of Love FM) - Launched in 1980 and ceased broadcasting in 1981. It was later replaced by KBS Radio 2's regional radio service and Educational FM (now [EBS FM](#)). Later re-launched in 2000 as a spin-off from KBS Radio 2. For the first time in 2010, it was launched on [FM](#) and restructured as a radio station for the disabled.<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS 1FM](#) (93.1 MHz [Classic FM](#)) - classical music and folk music. Launched in 1979 as KBS Stereo, adopted current name in 1980.<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS 2FM](#) (89.1 MHz/[DMB CH 12B Cool FM](#)) - popular music. Launched in 1966 as Radio Seoul Broadcasting (RSB), renamed as TBC-FM in the 1970s, renamed as KBS Radio 4 in 1980 after TBC-FM forced merger to KBS, then adopted current name in 2003.<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS Hanminjok Radio](#) (literal meaning: KBS Korean Nationality Radio) (6.015 MHz [shortwave](#) and 1170 kHz [mediumwave](#)) - launched in 1975 as KBS Third Programme<sup>[11]</sup>
- [KBS World Radio](#) - the South Korean international radio service, funded directly by the government.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Branding logo [[edit](#)]

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First KBS logo (from 1961 until 1 March 1973)



Second KBS logo (from 2 March 1973 until 28 October 1984)



Third and current KBS text logo (29 October 1984 to present)



Third and current KBS logo (29 October 1984 to present)

## Programmes [[edit](#)]

Further information: *List of programmes broadcast by Korean Broadcasting System*

## Foreign partners [[edit](#)]



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## Americas [[edit](#)]

Country	Public television
<a href="#">Argentina</a>	<a href="#">Radio y Televisión Argentina</a>
<a href="#">Bolivia</a>	<a href="#">Bolivia TV</a>
<a href="#">Brazil</a>	<a href="#">Empresa Brasil de Comunicação</a>
<a href="#">Canada</a>	<a href="#">Canadian Broadcasting Corporation</a>
<a href="#">Chile</a>	<a href="#">Televisión Nacional de Chile</a>
<a href="#">Colombia</a>	<a href="#">RTVC Sistema de Medios Públicos</a>
<a href="#">Costa Rica</a>	<a href="#">Trece Costa Rica Televisión</a>
<a href="#">Cuba</a>	<a href="#">Cuban Institute of Radio and Television</a>
<a href="#">Dominica</a>	<a href="#">Corporación Estatal de Radio y Televisión</a>
<a href="#">Ecuador</a>	<a href="#">Medios Públicos EP</a>
<a href="#">El Salvador</a>	<a href="#">TVES (El Salvador)</a>
<a href="#">Honduras</a>	<a href="#">Televisión Nacional de Honduras</a>
<a href="#">Mexico</a>	<a href="#">Sistema Público de Radiodifusión del Estado Mexicano</a>
<a href="#">Nicaragua</a>	<a href="#">Sistema Nacional de Televisión</a>
<a href="#">Paraguay</a>	<a href="#">Paraguay TV</a>
<a href="#">Peru</a>	<a href="#">Instituto Nacional de Radio y Televisión del Perú</a>
<a href="#">United States</a>	<a href="#">American Broadcasting Company</a> , <a href="#">PBS</a>
<a href="#">Uruguay</a>	<a href="#">Televisión Nacional Uruguay</a> and <a href="#">TV Ciudad</a>
<a href="#">Venezuela</a>	<a href="#">Bolivarian Communication and Information System</a>

## Europe [[edit](#)]

Country	Public television

Belgium	Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroeporganisatie
Finland	<span>Yle</span>
France	<span>France Televisions</span>
Germany	<span>ARD</span>
Italy	<span>Radiotelevisione Italiana</span>
Netherlands	<span>Nederlandse Publieke Omroep</span>
Norway	<span>Norsk Rikskringkasting</span>
Poland	<span>Telewizja Polska</span>
Portugal	<span>Rádio e Televisão de Portugal</span>
Russia	<span>VGTRK</span>
Spain	<span>Televisión Española</span>
Sweden	<span>Sveriges Television</span>
Ukraine	<span>UA:PBC</span>
United Kingdom	<span>BBC</span>

## Asia [[edit](#)]

Country	Public television
<span>Cambodia</span>	<span>National Television of Kampuchea</span>
<span>China</span>	<span>China Central Television</span>
<span>India</span>	<span>Doordarshan</span>
<span>Indonesia</span>	<span>Televisi Republik Indonesia</span>
<span>Japan</span>	<span>Nippon Hōsō Kyōkai, Tokyo Broadcasting System</span>
<span>Malaysia</span>	<span>Radio Televisyen Malaysia</span>
<span>Mongolia</span>	<span>Mongolian National Broadcaster</span>
<span>Thailand</span>	<span>National Broadcasting Services of Thailand</span>
<span>Taiwan</span>	<span>Public Television Service</span>
<span>Turkey</span>	<span>Turkish Radio and Television Corporation</span>
<span>Vietnam</span>	<span>VTV</span>

## Oceania [[edit](#)]

Country	Public television
<span>Australia</span>	<span>Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Special Broadcasting Service</span>
<span>New Zealand</span>	<span>Television New Zealand</span>

## Operational status [[edit](#)]

### Headquarters [[edit](#)]

KBS carried out a large-scale organizational reform on 1 March 2019. The focus of the reform is to; further strengthen the KBS' capabilities of content creation; enhance the organization's digital work flow; and improve audience services. As part of the new strategy, KBS created Content Production 2 Division, a new integral body, responsible for a highly efficient operation of production, marketing, as well as content businesses. The new division ultimately aims to bring outstanding dramas and



entertainment programming by boosting creative nature of the production function, and minimizing its decision-making process. <sup>[12]</sup>

The new reform strategy introduced Public Service Media Strategy team under Strategy and Planning Division. Public Service Media Strategy is mainly responsible for developing KBS' digital strategies for different audiences to enjoy KBS content via assorted digital media platforms. The reform brought changes in Programming Division as Digital Media department has further expanded its roles under the division. Digital News department attached to News and Sports Division has also strengthened its functions in line with the recent reform initiative. Another significant change in the reform is that new 'Audience Relations Center' has become an executive department, to be operated directly by KBS President and CEO. The Audience Relations Center will dedicate its resources to further enhance audience services, and create more opportunities for audiences to take part in various initiatives developed by KBS. And Local Stations Management has been reorganized to be supervised under KBS Executive Vice President, as KBS has a plan to build a regional broadcasting system in response to a growing demand for greater regional autonomy.

- |                                         |                                         |                                          |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| • President                             | • News & Sports offices                 | • Technology offices                     |
| • Board of Directors                    | • Integrated news room                  | • Technology Management office           |
| • Board of Directors Secretariat        | • Politics & International News office  | • Media Infrastructure office            |
| • Executive Vice president              | • Economy News office                   | • Broadcasting Network office            |
| • Human Resources office                | • Social Affairs News office            | • Media Platform office                  |
| • Program Review office                 | • Broadcasting News office              | • Production Technology offices          |
| • Gender Equality Centre                | • Digital News office                   | • TV Production Technology office        |
| • Audience Relations Centre             | • News Footage & Archive office         | • News Production Technology office      |
| • Inter-Korean Broadcasting Corporation | • News Commentators office              | • Outside Broadcasting Technology office |
| • Local Stations Management             | • Current Affairs office                | • Radio Production Technology office     |
| • Auditor General                       | • Sports News office                    | • Management offices                     |
| • Audit office                          | • Content Production 1 offices          | • Management & Administration office     |
| • Strategy & Planning offices           | • Current Affairs & Cultural Programs 1 | • License Fee office                     |
| • Strategy & Planning office            | • Current Affairs & Cultural Programs 2 | • Management IT office                   |
| • Budget & Investment office            | • Program Commissioning                 | • Asset Management office                |
| • External Affairs office               | • Radio Center                          | • Facility Management office             |
| • Public Media Institute                | • Radio Programming & Planning          |                                          |
| • Media Technology Research Institute   | • Radio 1                               |                                          |
| • Programming offices                   | • Content Production 2 offices          |                                          |
| • Programming Strategy office           | • Entertainment Content Center          |                                          |
| • Programming office                    | • Content Business office               |                                          |
| • Digital Media office                  | • Advertisement office                  |                                          |
| • KBS World office                      | • Integrated Events Management office   |                                          |
| • Announcers office                     | • Drama Center                          |                                          |
| • Camera office                         | • Drama CP Group                        |                                          |

## Controversies <sup>[edit]</sup>



**This section has multiple issues.** Please help **improve it** or discuss these issues on the **talk page**. *(Learn how and when to remove these template messages)*

- The **neutrality of this section is disputed**. *(December 2014)*
- This article should be**briefly** summarized in **Korean Broadcasting System** and a link provided from there to here using the {{Main}} template.

KBS, as one of Korea's oldest broadcasters, had more controversies than **SBS** and **MBC**. It also earned nicknames such as *Soonkyu Bangsong* and *The Department of Last Resort*

## 1980 - Forced merger of KBS with private broadcasters [[edit](#)]

During the **Chun Doo-hwan** regime of the eighties, the president passed a law to force several public broadcasters to merge with the public-run KBS. After these broadcasters had shown news stories against Chun, he used this law to stifle their criticism of him. It included:

- **Tongyang Broadcasting Corporation** (TBC)
- **Donga Broadcasting System** (DBS)
- **Seohae Broadcasting Corporation** (SBC)
- **Jeonil Broadcasting Corporation** (VOC)
- **Hanguk-FM**

**Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation** (MBC) was also affected. MBC was, at first, a federation of 20 loosely affiliated member stations located in various parts of Korea. Although they shared much of their programming, each member station was privately owned. After the consolidation, however, affiliates were forced to give up a majority of shares to the MBC based in Seoul. MBC Seoul, in turn, was forced to give up their majority of its shares to KBS.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Consequences [[edit](#)]

- TBC television became **KBS2**, and TBC Radio became **KBS Radio 4** (now Cool FM/2FM).
- DBS became the now-defunct **KBS Radio 5**. The frequency is now used by **SBS Love FM**.
- SBC became KBS Gunsan,<sup>[14]</sup> now known as KBS Radio 3 Jeonju.
- VOC became KBS Radio 3 Gwangju
- Hanguk-FM became KBS-Daegu-FM.

In 2009, president **Lee Myung-bak** said that the law was unconstitutional, and in 2011 TBC and DBS were revived as **JTBC** and **Channel A** respectively.

## 2011 - Wiretapping scandal at TV license fee meeting [[edit](#)]

In 2011, Sohn Hak-kyu, the chairman of the opposition Democratic Party, accused KBS of wiretapping the party's closed-door meeting on TV subscription charges.<sup>[15]</sup>

Sohn said, "We believe the firm bugged the meeting to secure information about our party's handling of the TV subscription policy. KBS should admit that it resorted to the deplorable method of gathering information."<sup>[*[citation needed](#)*]</sup>

The ruling Grand National Party initially sought to put a bill concerning the TV subscription charge to a vote. However, it failed to do so amid strong opposition from the Democrats.

The National Assembly's subcommittee on culture, tourism, broadcasting and communication, was scheduled to deliberate on 28 June 2011, but the meeting was cancelled due to the Democrats' protest.

The scandal erupted on 23 June when Han Sun-kyo, chairman of the parliamentary subcommittee, criticized the Democrats' opposition to increasing the TV subscription charge during a subcommittee meeting.

The GNP lawmakers eventually approved a bill raising the charge by 1,000 won to 3,500 won at a subcommittee meeting in the absence of Democrat lawmakers. That led to a Democrat boycott of a June extraordinary parliamentary session for half a day on 21 June 2011.

## 2011 - Praising Chinilpa [edit]

Bak Han-yong (박한용), head of the Institute for Research in Collaborationist Activities, criticized KBS for censoring negative remarks from a documentary about [Chinilpa](#) individuals, and [Rhee Syngman](#), who had pardoned them.<sup>[16]</sup> This includes the Chinilpa [Paik Sun-yup](#).<sup>[17]</sup>

## 2012 - KBS journalists strikes and *Reset KBS News 9* [edit]

The journalists working for KBS (along with [MBC](#), [SBS](#) and [YTN](#)) have protested against the biased journalism practices that favor the [Lee Myung-bak government](#).<sup>[18][19][20]</sup> The new union for KBS headed by Kim Hyeon-seok released a video clip "Reset KBS News 9" (리셋 KBS 뉴스9) on the internet that discusses the [Prime Minister's Office Civilian Surveillance Incident](#) and the controversial money-spending on renovating President [Lee Myung-bak](#)'s alleged birth house on 13 March 2012.<sup>[21]</sup>

## 2013 - *You Are The Best!* name controversy [edit]

*Further information: [You Are the Best!](#)*

Global Youth League DN filed an [injunction](#) at Seoul Central District Court against KBS for using the name "Lee Soon-shin" in the title of the drama. The injunction requested KBS to (1) immediately stop the broadcast, (2) remove "Lee Soon-shin" from the title, and (3) change the name of one of its characters. The group claimed that historical figure Lee Soon-shin (or [Yi Sun-sin](#)), an admiral famed for his victories against the Japanese Navy in the [Imjin War](#) during the [Joseon Dynasty](#), is an official national symbol whose status will "deteriorate" when associated with the "weak and clumsy" protagonist that lead actress [IU](#) plays.<sup>[22][23][24][25]</sup> KBS and production company [AStory](#) responded that they had no plans of changing the title or character name. Instead, they altered the original drama poster where several cast members are sitting on a pile of [100 won coins](#) that have an image of Admiral Yi, by digitally replacing the coins with a plain gold platform.<sup>[26][27]</sup>

## 2014 - 1st KBS strike against pro-government bias of its president [edit]

In early May 2014, Gil Hwan-young removed the KBS news chief after alleged improper remarks over the [sinking of the ferry Sewol](#). The chief then accused Gil of interference with news editing, with an alleged pro-government bias.

After the board postponed a decision on whether or not to dismiss Gil, two of the broadcaster's largest unions went on strike.

As a result of the boycott, most of the broadcaster's news output was affected. The hour-long [KBS News 9](#) ran for just 20 minutes, and during local elections on 4 June 2014, KBS was unable to send reporters to interview candidates.

The strike ended after the board of directors voted to dismiss Gil. The board passed a motion on 5 June 2014 demanding the discharge of President Gil. The majority vote decision was sent to be approved by the country's president [Park Geun-hye](#), who has the power to appoint the broadcaster's head.<sup>[28][29][30]</sup>

## 2017 - 2nd KBS strike against pro-government bias of its president [edit]

In August 2017, KBS union decided to hold a strike, which began on 4 September, due to allegedly influencing news coverage to be in favor of former president [Park Geun-hye](#)'s administration.<sup>[31][32]</sup> As a result of the boycott, there has been a severe reduction in the airing of KBS news programs, culture programs, radio shows, and variety shows due to most staff members taking part in the strike.<sup>[33]</sup> After 141 days, the strike was over when the broadcasting company's board of directors approved the dismissal of KBS president Ko Dae-young.<sup>[34][35]</sup>

## See also [edit]

- [Educational Broadcasting System](#)
- [List of Korea-related topics](#)
- [KBS World Radio](#)
- [KBS World \(United States\)](#) (KBS America)
- [KBS World Canada](#)
- [KBS Symphony Orchestra](#)



- [KBS Hall](#)
- [List of South Korean broadcasting networks](#)
- [Korean Central Television](#) (equivalent in [North Korea](#))

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- [KBS America](#)



<b>Key people</b>	<b>Current</b>	<span>Yang Seung-dong</span>
	<b>Former</b>	<span>Hong Kyung-mo</span> • <span>Choi Se-kyung</span> • <span>Lee Won-hong</span> • <span>Park Hyun-tae</span> • <span>Jung Koo-ho</span> • <span>Seo Young-hoon</span> • <span>Seo Ki-won</span> • <span>Hong Doo-pyo</span> • <span>Park Kwon-sang</span> • <span>Seo Dong-koo</span> • <span>Jung Yeon-joo</span> • <span>Lee Byung-soon</span> • <span>Kim In-kyoo</span> • <span>Kil Hwan-young</span> • <span>Jo Dae-hyun</span> • <span>Ko Dae-young</span>
<b>Subsidiaries and divisions</b>	<span>KBS Media</span> • <span>KBS N</span> • <span>Monster Union</span>	
<b>Television networks</b>	<b>Broadcast</b>	<span>KBS1</span> • <span>KBS2</span> • <span>KBS UHD</span>
	<b>Cable</b>	<span>KBS N Life</span> • <span>KBS Drama</span> • <span>KBS N Sports</span> • <span>KBS Joy</span> • <span>KBS Kids</span> • <span>KBS W</span>
	<b>International</b>	<span>KBS World</span> ( <span>KBS America</span> ) • <span>KBS World 24</span> • <span>KBS World Indonesia</span> • <span>KBS World Japan</span> • <span>KBS World Latino</span> • <span>KBS World TV</span> )
<b>Radio networks</b>	<span>KBS Radio 1</span> • <span>KBS Radio 2</span> • <span>KBS Radio 3</span> • <span>KBS Classic FM</span> • <span>KBS Cool FM</span> • <span>KBS Hanminjok Radio</span> • <span>KBS World Radio</span>	
<b>Related articles</b>	<span>KBS Drama Awards</span> • <span>KBS Hall</span> • <span>KBS Symphony Orchestra</span>	



V • T • E			Television networks in South Korea
The highlighted channel : Disaster Relay Broadcasting Service.			
Free-to-air	National	KBS (KBS 1TV 9-1 • KBS 2TV 7-1) • MBC (MBC TV 11-1) • SBS (SBS TV 6-1) • EBS (EBS 1TV 10-1 • EBS 2TV 10-2)	
	Seoul Capital Area	OBS (OBS-TV 8-1)	
	Gwangdong	G1	
	Hoseo	TJB • CJB	
	Honam	JTV • kbc	
	Yeongnam	TBC • KNN • ubc	
	Jeju Island	JIBS	
Generalist	JTBC • MBN • TV CHOSUN • Channel A • YTN • Yonhap News TV		
Economy	SBS Biz		
Sports	KBS N Sports • MBC Sports+ • SBS Sports • SBS Golf • JTBC Golf&Sports • SPOTV • SPOTV2 • SPOTV+ • SPOTV ON • SPOTV ON2 • SKY Sports		
Entertainment	KBS Joy • MBC M • MBC Every1 • SBS Plus • SBS funE • SBS F!L • SBS F!L UHD • SBS MTV • TV CHOSUN2 • TV CHOSUN3 • Channel A+ • tvN (OtvN • XtvN • tvN STORY) • O'live • Mnet • OGN • SKY • NQQ • SKY UHD • STATV • Cube TV • Lifetime • History		
Drama·Movie	KBS Drama • MBC Drama • MBC ON • OCN • OCN Movies • OCN Thrills • Chunghwa TV • ONCE • TeleNovela		
Culture	OL!FE • National Geographic • Discovery Channel • Animal Planet		
Edu·Kids	kids talk talk plus		
Cartoon	Nickelodeon • Tooniverse • Animax • Disney Channel • Disney Junior • Cartoon Network • Boomerang		
International	Airang TV		
Shopping	CJ O Shopping • CJ O Shopping + • Shinsegae		










<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>		<b>KBS'S Entertainment Shows</b>
<b>Airing</b>	<i>Happy Sunday</i> ( <i>2 Days &amp; 1 Night</i> • <i>The Return of Superman</i> ) • <i>Music Bank</i> • <i>You Hee-yeol's Sketchbook</i> • <i>Immortal Songs</i> • <i>My Neighbor, Charles</i> • <i>Problem Child in House</i> • <i>Fly Shoot Dori</i> — <i>New Beginning</i> • <i>Boss in the Mirror</i> • <i>Stars' Top Recipe at Fun-Staurant</i>	
<b>Ended</b>	<i>Brave Family</i> • <i>Invincible Youth</i> • <i>Saturday Freedom</i> • <i>Sponge 0</i> • <i>Hello Baby</i> • <i>KBS Gayo Daechukje</i> • <i>Star Golden Bell</i> • <i>I Am a Man</i> • <i>Singing Battle</i> • <i>Let's Go! Dream Team Season 2</i> • <i>Vitamin</i> • <i>Pot Stand</i> • <i>The Human Condition</i> • <i>A Style For You</i> • <i>Sister's Slam Dunk</i> • <i>Bragging Room Guest</i> • <i>Dragon's Club: Overgrown Bromance</i> • <i>1 Percent of Friendship</i> • <i>Where on Earth??</i> • <i>Grandma's Restaurant in Samcheong-dong</i> • <i>Six-Party Talks</i> • <i>Matching Survival 1+1</i> • <i>Trio's Childcare Challenge</i> • <i>The Hit</i> • <i>Sponge 2.0</i> • <i>Battle Trip</i> • <i>Hello Counselor</i> • <i>Gag Concert</i> • <i>Happy Together</i> • <i>The Dreamer</i> • <i>Top 10 Student</i> • <i>Idol on Quiz</i>	
<b>Special</b>	<span>KBS Drama Awards</span> • <span>KBS Entertainment Awards</span> • <span>KBS Song Festival</span>	

<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	<b>Lists of TV programs broadcast by region</b>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------



Asia-wide	
Animal Planet • Animax • Armenia TV • AXN • BBC • Discovery • Discovery HD World • Discovery Science • Fox • HBO • MTV Southeast Asia • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Nickelodeon • Syfy Asia • STAR World • Star Vijay • STAR Movies/Fox Movies Premium • Channel V	
East Asia	
<b>Hong Kong</b>	TVB • ViuTVsix • Cable TV/ HK Open TV/ HKIBC • Star Vijay
<b>Japan</b>	Animax • TBS
<b>South Korea</b>	Arirang TV • Disney Channel • KBS • MBC • SBS • JTBC
South Asia	
<b>India</b>	&TV • 9X • Animal Planet • Zee Magic • Cartoon Network • Colors • Colors Tamil • DD National • Discovery • Discovery HD World • Discovery Kids • Disney Channel • Gemini TV • Hungama TV • Imagine TV • Jaya TV • Kalaignar TV • Life OK • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Nickelodeon • Pogo • Puthuyugam TV • Raj TV • SAB TV • Sahara One • Sony TV • Star Jalsha • STAR Maa • STAR One • STAR Plus • Star Vijay • Sun TV • TV Asia • Zee TV • Zee Tamizh • Zindagi
<b>Nepal</b>	Nepal TV • Kantipur Television • AP!
<b>Pakistan</b>	ARY Digital • ARY Zindagi • Geo Kahani • Geo TV • Hum TV • Hum Sitaray • Nickelodeon • Spacetoon • PTV • TV One • Urdu 1
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Shakthi TV
Southeast Asia	
<b>Malaysia</b>	TV2 • TV3 • ntv7 • 8TV • TV9 • Astro Ceria • Star Vijay
<b>Philippines</b>	A2Z • ABS-CBN • ABS-CBN Sports+Action • ANC • Animal Planet • Animax • Asianovela Channel • BEAM TV • Boomerang • CNN Philippines • Discovery • DZBB • DZMM • DZRH/DZRH News TV • ETC • Fox Movies • Fox Filipino • GMA Network • GTV • IBC • INC TV • Jack TV • Jeepney TV • Kapamilya Channel • Kapamilya Online Live • Knowledge Channel • Light TV • Metro Channel • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Net 25 • One Sports • PTV • Radyo5/One PH • RJTV • SMNI • TV5 • Yey! • UNTV
<b>Singapore</b>	Asian Food Network • BBC • CNA • Channel 5 • Channel 8 • Channel U • Vasantham • Star Vijay
<b>Vietnam</b>	Animal Planet • AXN • Discovery • HanoiTV1 • HanoiTV2 • HTV1 • HTV2 • HTV3 • HTV4 • HTV7 • HTV9 • MTV Vietnam • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • RED by HBO • Fox Movies • VTV1 • VTV2 • VTV3 • VTV4 • VTV5 • VTV6 • VTV7 • VTV8 • VTV9
Oceania	
<b>Australia</b>	ABC • Animal Planet • Cartoon Network • Channel 31 • Discovery • Discovery HD World • Disney Channel • MTV Australia • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Network Ten • Nine Network • Sky News Live • SBS • SF Channel • Seven Network
<b>New Zealand</b>	Discovery • Prime • TVNZ
Europe	
<b>Albania</b>	Top Channel
<b>Armenia</b>	Armenia TV • Armenia 1
<b>Cyprus</b>	CyBC • METV
<b>France</b>	6ter • Canal+ • France 2 • France 3 • France 4 • France 5 • Gulli • M6 • Disney Channel • TF1 • TMC • TFX • TF1 Séries Films • W9
<b>Germany</b>	Das Erste • Kabel eins • ProSieben • RTL • VOX • ZDF • ZDFneo
<b>Greece</b>	Alpha TV • Alter Channel • ANT1 • ERT • Mega Channel
<b>Hungary</b>	Cool TV • Duna TV • Film+ • M1 (TV channel) • RTL Klub • TV2 • Viasat 3
<b>Ireland</b>	RTÉ • TG4 • Virgin Media
<b>Italy</b>	Fox • FX • Joi • Mya • Steel
<b>Norway</b>	NRK 1 • NRK 2 • NRK 3 • NRK super • TV 2 • TV 2 Bliss • TV 2 Zebra • TV 2 Livsstil • TV2 Sport • TV 2 Nyhetskanalen • TVNorge • Vox • FEM • Max • TV3 Norway
<b>Poland</b>	Polsat • TVN • TVN Siedem • TV Puls
<b>Portugal</b>	Disney Channel • Nickelodeon • SIC • TVI
<b>Spain</b>	La 1 • La 2 • Antena 3 (Spain) • Clan (TV channel) • Nickelodeon • TVE • Telecinco • La Sexta
<b>UK</b>	Animal Planet • BBC • Cartoonito • CBBC • CBeebies • Boomerang • Bravo • Cartoon Network • Challenge • Channel 4 • Channel 5 • Channel One • CITV • Comedy Central • Discovery • Discovery Home & Health • Disney Channel • Disney XD • E4 • ITV • ITV2 • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Nickelodeon • Nicktoons • Sky One • Sky Witness • Syfy

Middle East	
Israel	Channel 2 • Channel 1 • Israeli Educational Television • Arutz HaYeladim
North America	
Canada	ABC Spark • Animal Planet • BBC Canada • BiteTV • bpm:tv • CBC • Citytv • CMT • Comedy Gold • The Comedy Network • Cooking Channel • Cosmopolitan TV • CTV/CTV Two • Discovery • Discovery Science • Disney Channel • DejaView • DTour • E! (TV system) • E! (specialty channel) • Family • Food Network • FX • G4 • Global • Global Reality • HGTV • History Television • Joytv • Knowledge Network • MTV • MTV2 • MuchMore • MuchMusic • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Nickelodeon • OLN • OUTtv • The Pet Network • Prise 2 • Radio-Canada • Showcase • Teletoon • theScore • TSN • TVA • TVOntario • V • Yes TV • YTV
Caribbean	Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation • CaribVision • Cubavision International • Tempo TV
Mexico	Televisa • TV Azteca
United States	ABC • Adult Swim • A&E • Amazon • AMC • Animal Planet • Antenna TV • Apple TV+ • Audience • Azteca • BBC America • BET • BET Her • Boomerang • Bravo • Cartoon Network • CBS • Chiller • Cinemax • CMT • CNBC • CNN • Comedy Central • Cooking Channel • Create • The CW • The CW Plus • Discovery Channel • Discovery Family • Disney • Disney+ • Disney Junior • Disney XD • DuMont • E! • Epix • Esquire Network • ESPN • Facebook Watch • Food Network • Fox • Fox Business • Fox News • Fox Sports 1 • Freeform • Fuse • FX • FXX • G4 • GAC • GetTV • GSN • HBO • HBO Max • Hallmark Channel • H&I • History • Hulu • IFC • Investigation Discovery • Ion • Justice Network • Kids' WB • Lifetime • Logo • MeTV • MSNBC • MTV • MTV2 • MTV Classic • MundoMax • MyNetworkTV • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • NBC • NBCSN • Netflix • NewsNation • NFL Network • Nickelodeon • Nick at Nite • Nick GaS • Nick Jr. • Nicktoons • Noggin • NTA Film Net • OWN • Oxygen • Paramount Network • Paramount+ • PBS • PBS Kids • Peacock • Pop • Qubo • Quibi • Retro TV • Science • Showtime • Shudder • Smile • Sony Crackle • Starz • Sundance TV • Syfy • Syndication • TBD • TBS • TechTV • TeenNick • Telemundo • TheCoolTV • The WB • The WB 100+ • This TV • TLC • TNT • Toon Disney • Toonami • Tr3s • Travel Channel • truTV • TV Land • TV One • UniMás • Universal Kids • Univisión • Up • UPN • USA Network • VH1 • We TV • YouTube Premium
Latin America	
Animal Planet • BBC • Boomerang • Canal Sony • Cartoon Network • Discovery Kids • Discovery • Discovery Science • Disney Channel • Fox • Nat Geo • Nat Geo Wild • Nickelodeon • Warner Channel	
South America	
Brazil	Band • CNT • Disney Channel • Globo • GloboNews • Mix TV • MTV • Nickelodeon • Multishow • Record News • RecordTV • RedeTV! • SBT
Venezuela	RCTV • Televen • Venevisión
Multiple regions	
Jetix • The Filipino Channel • GMA Pinoy TV • GMA Life TV • GMA News TV International • HBO Max • Xbox Live • Netflix • Amazon Prime Video • Paramount+ • Disney+ • Apple TV+	
V • T • E	
Members of the European Broadcasting Union	

Active members	Current	ARD (BR · DLR · DW · HR · MDR · NDR · RB · RBB · SR · SWR · WDR) · ARMR · ARMTV · BBC · BHRT · BNR · BNT · C+ · C1R · ČRo · ČT · CyBC · DR · E1 · ENRS · EPTV · ERR · ERSŁ · ERT · ERTT · ERTU · GPB · GRF (FMM · FTV · RF) · GRMC (MMD · RMC · TMC) · HRT · ĨCTI (iR · ĨTV) · JRTV · KAN · LNC · LRT · LSM (LR · LTV) · MRT · MTVA · NPO (AVROTROS · BNNVARA · EO · HUMAN · KRO-NCRV · MAX · NOS · NTR · PowNed · Ster · VPRO · WNL) · NRK · ORF · PBS · PR · RAI · RDO (MK · OP) · ROR · RO/TVR · RTBF · RTCG · RTÉ · RTL · RTP · RTS · RTSH · RTVA · RTVE (RNE · TVE) · RTVS · RTVSLO · RÚV · SMRTV · SNRT · SRG SSR · SRT (SR · SVT · UR) · Suspilne · TDA · TF1 · TG4 · TL · TRM · TRT · TV 2 <sup>(DK)</sup> · TV 2 <sup>(NO)</sup> · TVP · UKIB (C4 · ITV · S4C · STV) · VGTRK · VR · VRT · Yle · ZDF
	Former	A3R · BTRC · COPE · CRCA · ČST · Duna · IBA <sup>(GB)</sup> · IBA <sup>(IL)</sup> · ITA · JRT · LJBC · MR · MTV <sup>(FI)</sup> · MTV <sup>(HU)</sup> · NERIT · SER · SRo · STV · TMC · TV4 · UJRT
Associate members	Current	ABC <sup>(AU)</sup> · ABC <sup>(US)</sup> · AIR · APM · CBC/SRC · CBS · CMG (CCTV · CGTN · CNR · CRI) · FPA · Free · ICRT · IRIB · KA · <b>KBS</b> · MBC · NBAB · NBC · NHK · NPR · ORTAS · PART · RB · RNZ · RTHK · RTM · SABC · SBS · SMG · TBS/JORX-DTV · TEME · TFM/JOAU-FM · TVNZ · UCTV · WFMT
	Former	PBC
Approved participants	Arte · CAT · Cellnex · Euronews · JPMRD · RTRN · RTV · TV5Monde	
Authority control 		
General	Integrated Authority File (Germany)  · ISNI (1  ) · VIAF (1  ) · WorldCat 	
National libraries	France  (data)  · United States  · Japan 	
Scientific databases	CiNii (Japan) 	

Korean Broadcasting		Mass media companies of South Korea
Categories:	System	
Korean-language television stations		Publicly funded broadcasters
Television networks in South Korea		Mass media companies established in 1927
Radio stations established in 1927		Television channels and stations established in 1961
1927 establishments in Korea		

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